

STORIES from the BIG CITIES



Suburb of Chicago Finds Itself in the War Zone

CHICAGO—Morgan Park unconsciously slipped into the war zone the other day—and slipped right out again. The woods at Prospect avenue and Groveland court bore a near appearance to a European battlefield. There were two lines of trenches, in front of which the earth had been piled up in superdefenses. Projecting from loopholes in this earthwork were the barrels of rifles. Twenty boys, armed to the teeth, filled the opposing trenches.



The German eagle waved over one trench and the flags of the allied powers flew over the other. The forces were evenly divided, and it was evident from the tenseness of the situation in each trench that an engagement was near. Then the unexpected—the element that turns the tide of battle—happened. A number of men in blue uniforms were creeping up in the grass in the rear of the allies' trench. They crouched behind trees and staid on the operations.

At the moment when the commander of the allied forces started to lead his men out of their trenches in a desperate charge on the German position, the men in blue rose and started another charge on their rear.

"Thinns!" shouted the little Bobby-make-believe, who was leading the charge of the allies. "We are cut off from the rear! Fight your way through, men! Up and at 'em!"

"Cossacks!" shouted a youthful figure that appeared suddenly on top of the German trench. "The enemy has re-enforcements. Beat it!"

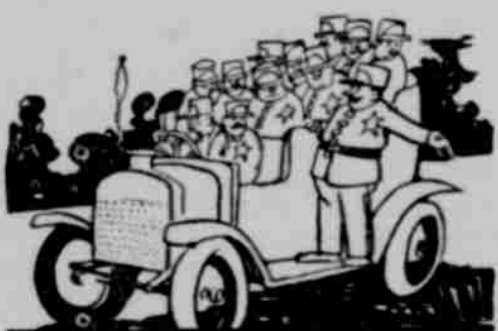
"Stop the war in the name of the law," shouted Police Lieut. Charles E. Burns, who was leading the line of blue. "Surround them, men. Capture them alive, but let no man escape."

The war was momentarily forgotten in the effort to elude the police. German and Briton, French and Russ mixed indiscriminately in the rush for liberty. It was a rout.

Five of the warriors—allies all—threw down their arms and surrendered. Three flags, two rifles, three revolvers and some ammunition were gathered up and when the boys' parents met the warriors in the police station a peace treaty was signed. The guns and cartridges were confiscated. The flags and parts of uniforms were returned to their owners to be kept as relics to be cherished in later years.

Central Park Shown to New York Police Rookies

NEW YORK—A new sight-seeing service has been established in Central Park for those who may have heard of the famous reservation but are unacquainted with the chief topographical features that are well known to old-timers. The automobile in service is one of the large green-painted machines owned by the police department. Remarkable as it may seem, the sightseers are men in blue. They are police rookies, who are assigned to duty in the park on Saturdays and Sundays to help out the short-handed park squad. Usually a veteran park cop who knows every blade of grass goes along with the rookies as official announcer. A typical trip runs in part very much this way:



"This is Donkey hill. You will find it a nice post, but you will have to answer a lot of questions. Over there is Pigeon hill, a quiet post; mostly nuns and children. This is Lovers' Lane, near the reservoir. You don't see anything wrong here as a rule, for you must remember that you were once young yourself and didn't like to be disturbed by the old man coming into the parlor when you was calling on your best girl. If you are assigned to Heiser's hill, bear in mind that ghosts don't walk in the daytime. You won't have to do duty at night, so you needn't worry in case you have heard the tradition."

So the veteran cop goes on, pointing out Suicide lawn, Cat hill and many other places.

Swarm of Bees Causes Sensation in Atlanta

ATLANTA—A swarm of bees from the country caused a sensation by invading Atlanta's business district in a compact, buzzing cloud, and after starting Peachtree street went up 17 stories over the roof of the Healey building and settled on the low roof of the Central club. There they picked out a ventilator hood as their home and, headed by their queen, proceeded to set up housekeeping.



Office boys were beating tin cans, while people on the roof stood aloof, when Ernest Deacon, an insurance man, saw them from the Empire building, two blocks away. He remembered his early bee-catching days in the foothills of Georgia. With a packing box and a square of canvas he hurried to the scene.

Deacon climbed to the roof. The bees clustered in a brown mass about the ventilator. Deacon calmly placed the box near the bees and began picking them up by the handful and putting them in the box.

After a little he desisted, saying: "I've got the queen in there now; watch the rest crawl in after her." And, sure enough, they did. In fifteen minutes there wasn't a bee in sight outside the box.

Deacon wrapped the canvas about the box, tucked it under his arm and walked away.

"They will never sting you while they are swarming," he said. "They can't; they're too fat."

The colony is now installed in his back yard.

Topeka Plans to Make Money Out of Skunk Farm

TOPEKA, KAN.—The city of Topeka is to have a municipal skunk farm in Lakewood park. W. L. Porter, city commissioner of parks, so announced. "There's money in it," explained Porter, enthusiastically. "Of the various kinds of animals which the city is keeping at the Gage park zoo, none is profitable. I have just purchased eight skunks, and from these I expect the city to reap a good profit. The skunks will help pay for maintaining the other animals."

"The skunks I have bought are very fine animals. Their hides will be worth \$4 each when they are a year old, but the value of the fur depends somewhat upon the kind of feed the animals are given. If the right kind of feed is given, the hides will be worth even more than \$4 each. And each pair of skunks should raise eight young ones each year. So multiply eight by four and the city should have 32 skunks a year from now, and four times 32 is 128, the number at the end of the second year, and four times 128 is 512. If these 512 hides are worth \$4 each, the city should receive \$2,048 in three years—looks like a good investment for the city."

"What about the scent? Oh, that can be remedied. Skunks can be permanently deodorized. Deodorized skunks are not only profitable, but they make nice pets. They are real cute."



ENEMY OF APPLE TREE

Woolly Aphid One of Most Serious of Insect Pests.

New Significance Put Upon Economic Status of Elm Curl by Entomologists of Maine Agricultural Experiment Station.

The discovery that the woolly aphid migrates from elm leaf to apple is a most important one.

For more than 100 years the woolly aphid has had world-wide recognition as one of the most serious insect enemies of young apple trees. Statistics based on observations made at three nurseries containing respectively about 30,000, 45,000, and 300,000 trees, showed that from 20 per cent to 25 per cent of the trees were infested by the woolly aphid. As from twenty to forty million of American-grown apple seedlings are used in this country every year, the significance of so high a percentage of infestation is at once apparent.

It is, therefore, with no slight interest that the entomologists of the Maine agricultural experiment station have been seeking to ascertain a previously unknown point in the life cycle of this pest, and have made the discovery that this cycle includes three generations which are passed in what is known as the "elm-leaf curl." The disfigured and curled leaves of the elm in the spring are everywhere as familiar as the woolly masses on the apple bark, but the elm generations have not previously been known to have any connection with the apple pest, and it has all along borne a distinct name.

But the discovery of the annual migration of a fresh infestation from the



Elm-Leaf Curl.

elm to the apple and the knowledge that the elm generations are an essential portion of the life cycle of the woolly aphid of the apple, and that this species cannot continue without access to the elm, put a new significance upon the economic status of the elm curl.

PREPARATIONS FOR HAY CROP

To Get Best Quality of Alfalfa It Must Be Got Into Mow or Stack Immediately After Being Cut.

Don't overlook the fact that in order to get the best quality and most marketable alfalfa hay it must be got into the mow or stack as quickly as possible after it is cut.

Give all the machinery in connection with the putting up of this crop a thorough overhauling. Look over the mowing machine; see that everything is ready. See that all the sections are securely riveted on the sickle. Have all the sickles sharpened before you start to work. If the plates on the guards are smooth it will pay to take them off and grind them; a good edge on the guard plates is very essential.

The stacker rope should be given careful attention. A considerable quantity of hay may get wet if the stacker rope gives out after a few loads go up and it is necessary to go to town for a new one. Get all these things in shape in advance, that the work once started can be pushed to the limit.

PREVENT WASHING OF SOILS

Frequent Crops of Clover or Grass Which Is Plowed Under, Making Soils Spongy, Is Best.

(By E. H. FRANKLIN.)

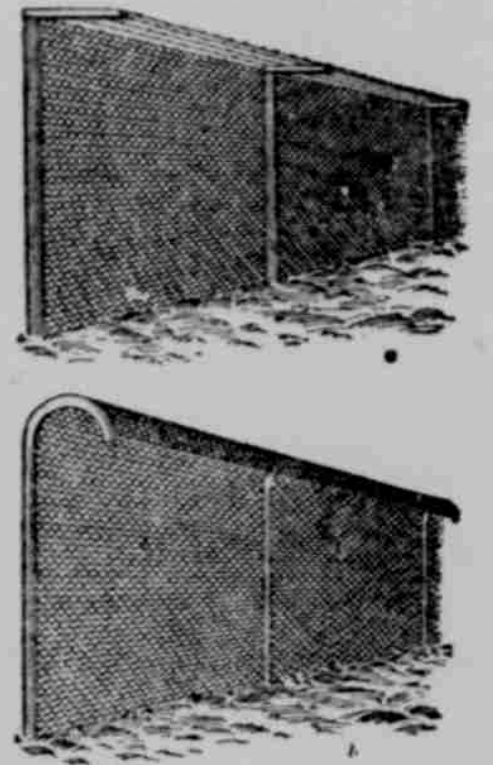
One of the gravest problems of the farmers of today who are living on hilly lands is how to prevent soil erosion. Much of the washing of farm lands can be prevented by plowing deep, so as to make a subterranean reservoir for the storage of precipitation. The water penetrates readily through the loose soil, and its movement through the underlying soil is very much slower than over the surface.

Frequent crops of clover or grass which are plowed under make the surface soil spongy with humus and retard the washing of the soil. All hilly lands liable to wash should have a cover crop during the winter. A warranty deed will not keep the soil of the careless farmer from washing away.

FENCES MADE VERMIN PROOF

Birds Require Protection From Various Natural Foes as Well as From Human Persecution.

Protection is the prime requisite for increasing the number of birds in any area, and the results of protection are in direct proportion to the amount given. Besides insuring birds against every form of persecution by human kind, we must defend them from various natural foes. The most effectual



Vermin Proof Fence—A, With Barbed Wires—B, With Loose Overhanging Netting.

single step is to surround the proposed bird sanctuary with a vermin-proof fence. Such a fence should prevent entrance either by digging or by climbing, but will serve its greatest use if it cannot be climbed, and is therefore cat-proof. It is impracticable to build an impenetrable fence, the next best device is to put guards of sheet metal on all nesting trees and on poles supporting bird houses. This should be done in any case where squirrels or snakes are likely to intrude, as it is usually impracticable to fence out these animals. Tree guards should be six feet or more above ground. Attacks by hawks, owls, crows, jays, or other enemies are best controlled by eliminating the destructive individuals.

STAKE AND PRUNE TOMATOES

Habit of Plant May Be So Altered That Patch Is Scarcely Recognizable—Moisture Is Saved.

Are you staking and pruning the tomatoes this year? This is a great scheme, and if you have not tried it, do so on a demonstration scale just for variety's sake.

The tomato plant, in its frantic efforts to reproduce its kind, makes naturally an enormous vine growth with innumerable branches. The result is great green growth, a large litter of little tomatoes, and more shade than is good for best fruit development. Stake a tomato plant and prune it to a single stem, and you change all this; you alter the habit of the plant, so that the tomato patch is scarcely recognizable.

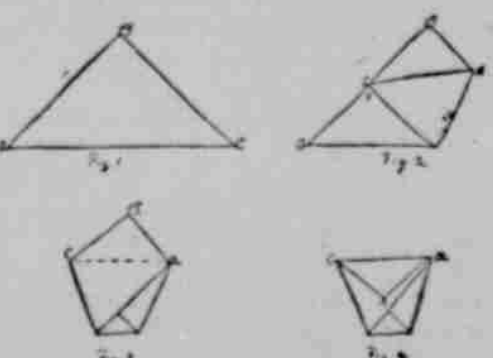
In the first place there are few leaves, only one above each fruit bunch, and this grows so huge that it is never known for a tomato leaf. Then the sun and light reaches every part of the plant and fruit, and the latter hang in clusters and attain larger size than under natural conditions. There are no little tomatoes. There is a considerable economy in space, as the tomato plants stand up straight and slender, and are mostly fruit, and none of the tomatoes have a chance to rot or mildew. Pruning is a quite a job. As a sufficiency of moisture in the soil is what largely controls the fruit yield, the pruning method, by which a much less amount of soil water is consumed than through the more luxuriant green growth of unpruned plants, will be found a great advantage in this respect.

PAPER POT FOR VEGETABLES

Handy for Keeping Different Varieties of Seeds and Plants—Roots of Plant Undisturbed.

Very convenient little pots for vegetable plants may be made from paper flour sacks or any tough paper.

Cut a piece eight inches square and fold through the middle diagonally. (Fig. 1). Fold in right hand corner over to left hand edge, like an envelope. (Fig. 2). Then fold the left hand point over in a corresponding manner. (Fig. 3). Separate the



Handy Paper Pots.

points and fold back to make a straight line. (Fig. 4). It now opens in a small box. These may be filled with rich soil and placed side by side, thus keeping different varieties of seeds or plants separate. This also saves buying pots, for when transplanted the paper can be torn off and the roots of the plant remain undisturbed.

HAVE SEEN MUCH OF HISTORY

Birds and Animals Still Living Whose Memories Could Take Them Back Over Century's Passage.

It is a startling fact that if some animals could tell their life they would be able to recall events which happened more than a century ago. A Russian eagle, for instance, would be able to remember watching with greedy eyes as one by one the French soldiers under Napoleon fell exhausted out of the ranks in their awful retreat from Moscow in 1812. There are crocodiles alive in India today which saw the first English traveler set foot there, while there are whales in the sea which may have skirted the coast of France when the British invaded it in 1415. A great many elephants could recall historical events of a hundred years ago, while there are ravens still living whose memory could go back twice that period.

Talking of birds, the parrot, the crow and the swan, often live a hundred years—that is, of course, if they do not meet with misfortune—while the heron will live sixty years. Geese and pelicans will survive half a century, and the sparrow forty years. Pigeons, linnets, canaries, cranes and peacocks will live to well over twenty years, while the goldfinch, partridge, pheasant, lark and nightingale will live from fifteen to eighteen years, the robin twelve years, and the thrush and hen ten years.

WORLD'S FAVOR VERY FICKLE

Sale of Treasured Trinket Owned by Great Actress Shows the Value of Sentiment.

The name of Fanny Davenport was for years a household word. Young collegians put her photographs on the mantelpiece or in the edge of a looking glass. Born into a famous theatrical family, she brilliantly played parts, and appearing in dramas by Sardou was popularly known as the American Sarah Bernhardt.

Personal property belonging to Miss Davenport was sold at auction in New York a short time ago. A locket containing her portrait and a lock of her mother's hair was put up. Miss Davenport had worn it constantly during the last years of her life. The locket itself was valuable. There was a bid of one dollar and seventy-five cents. The auctioneer was dumb with astonishment. Finally he gathered himself together and said that there must be some misunderstanding. "Miss Davenport loved it better than her life. She never took it from her neck while she was living and died with it clasped next to her heart, for it contained the love token of her mother. Again think of sentiment and its value. How much am I offered now?" Someone bid two dollars and thus possessed it. Sentiment brought twenty-five cents.

The Irishman Scored.

The duke of Connaught tells a good story against himself. Some years ago when he was raised to the position of lieutenant-colonel of the First Rifle brigade, the late Queen Victoria commanded that he should only be saluted as a regimental officer, and not as a member of the royal family.

On one occasion, however, an Irish sentry, seeing the duke and duchess approaching, turned out the guard and gave the royal salute.

The duke was much annoyed and proceeded to give the sergeant in charge a piece of his mind.

But the quick-witted Irishman was equal to the occasion.

"The guard, sorr," he said in the richest brogue, "is for her royal highness, who, as a member of the royal family, is entitled to it!"

After that the duke could say nothing.

Found, a Volunteer.

A certain member of the municipal court of Paris has been tireless in his activities in behalf of the less fortunate inhabitants of his arrondissement or ward. He makes a tour each morning of the streets of his crowded quarter of the town to see what people in trouble he can help. He directs also a soup kitchen. The other day he learned that the cook was gone. In spite of his somewhat advanced age this valuable assistant had enlisted in the army—or married a wife or something—anyway, he had vanished. The councilman scoured the town for a substitute. In vain. Never mind, the poor folks must not lack their soup.

The next morning found, in place of the departed artist behind the steaming pots, the councilman himself officiating as chef and concocting bean porridge of the best municipal brew.—New York Evening Post.

Forbidden Words.

Berlin police headquarters have issued a list of foreign words, hitherto in common use in Germany, which it is no longer permissible to employ in police reports or letters. The list includes: Bonbonniere, cafe, confection, cravat, expedition, garage, vestibule, chic, commission, elegant, export, institute, portiere, equipage, manufacturer, modiste, product, restaurant and jeweler.

Not So Bad as Painted.

With all the millions spent by Uncle Sam in the construction of the Panama canal there has been but one charge of graft. It concerned a slight fraud in the matter of purchasing tobacco. Graft in this country is not so bad as it is painted in the European journals.—Detroit News.

SHOULD NOT HAVE MOVED

Story of a Man Who Was Making Good, but Roving Fever Got the Best of Him.

On May 4th, 1915, the St. Paul Farmer's Dispatch contained a very interesting account of the experiences of a man from Staples, Minn. Realizing that he was not making much headway, he decided to look up a homestead in Canada. With \$250 he and his wife took up a homestead near Outlook, Saskatchewan. After recounting his experiences of a few years, in which they had undergone hardships which were likely to be unavoidable, with a small amount of capital, he continues the story by stating that in the fall after a fair summer's work on his 100 acres cropped, he cleaned up nearly all his debts, having now four good horses, a complete set of farm machinery including two wagons and a "Swell" top buggy and eleven head of cattle. He continues, "However, I was not satisfied. I had been reading of the splendid homesteads that were to be had in Montana. Wheat was cheap and I thought it would get cheaper, so I began to think that homesteading as a moneymaking proposition was better than farming."

I did not stop to consider that wheat was not the only thing; as a matter of fact I had sold pork for 14 cents a pound. Eggs and butter had kept up in groceries and more, we had now four milch cows, two heifers coming in and more growing up. We had a cream separator, and some hogs. We had a quarter section of land that could raise an abundance of small grain, roots and grass for feed, but I could not see all that; I had the 'moving' fever, and decided to sell.

I set the price on the land at \$3,000 cash. I could not find anyone with that much money, however, so I came down until I finally sold for \$1,400.

We had an auction and sold the personal property. On the sale we got just about enough cash to pay the auctioneer; the rest was all notes.

The horses brought about two-thirds what they were worth. The implements sold for hardly one-third of what they had cost. The cattle brought a good price.

Must Make Another Start.

We now have a homestead in Montana, but we find that after moving here and getting settled, what money we had did not go far. We have three horses, about all the implements we need, and a little better buildings than we had on our former place. We have no cattle, though we had to build much fence to keep ranch stock out of our fields. We have about \$500 worth of honest debts.

True, we have a half section in place of a quarter, but that is no good to us, as long as we have not the capital with which to work it.

In summarizing it all up I see where I made my mistake. It will take fully five years to get into as good circumstances as we were before we made the change. It is five years lost.

My advice to anyone contemplating a change of location is to think twice before you act, and if your present circumstances are not too bad, 'stay by your bush till you pick it clean.'—Advertisement.

Not Likely.

"A curious thing happened to me this morning," began the man who always told long-winded stories.

"Did somebody stop to listen to one of your yarns?" inquired the other, reaching for his hat.

TENDER SENSITIVE SKINS

Quickly Soothed by Cuticura. Nothing Better. Trial Free.

Especially when preceded by a hot bath with Cuticura Soap. Many comforting things these fragrant super-emollient emollients may do for the skin, scalp, hair and hands and do it quickly, effectively and economically. Also for the toilet, bath and nursery.

Sample each free by mail with Book. Address postcard, Cuticura, Dept. XY, Boston. Sold everywhere.—Adv.

Not So Bad as That.

"What are you so furious about, wife?"

"Mrs. Smith just called me an old cat!"

"Why, you're not old!"—Farm Life.

Important to Mothers.

Examine carefully every bottle of CASTORIA, a safe and sure remedy for infants and children, and see that it bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Fletcher* In Use For Over 30 Years. Children Cry for Fletcher's Castoria

Municipal Research Chickens.

Farmer—These are chickens. City Guest—I presume one breed lays scrambled eggs and the other fried.

Drink Denison's Coffee.

For your health's sake.

It isn't what you say but how you say it that makes a woman either your friend or your enemy.

Always use Red Cross Ball Blue. Delights the laundress. At all good grocers. Adv.

A desire to avoid work often is manifested in a determined search for a government job.